



21 clues are ‘Letters Latent’ – from the answer to each clue, one letter is omitted (wherever it occurs) to form the grid entry. Definitions and word lengths refer to the full word; wordplay to what is entered in the grid. The phrase given by the omitted letters in clue order defines the Playfair codeword.

This codeword governs the entry of two answers with normal clues (*). For an explanation of Playfair coding see:

<http://www.listencrossword.com/HTML/Playfair.html>.

The remaining word (§) is entered in a manner indicated by the Playfair codeword.

ACROSS

- 1* Chewing meat skewer, perhaps, in extremes of craving (8)
- 7 Changes amuse unconventionally (7)
- 9 Rocky cliffs? Painful things (6)
- 11 King is backing address to nobleman? (4)
- 12 Attracts old confectionery (5)
- 14 Drinks? Drunkards! (5)
- 15 Means of controlling one in German society (5)
- 17 Case prowler returned contains strings of pearls (5)
- 18 Monarch holding Oriental jug (4)
- 19 Friends attending Henry, rather ill? (6)
- 21 Wager love will snare leader of Italians, e.g. Mussolini (6)
- 22* A reprobate embraced by favourite bird (8)

DOWN

- 1 Those who set about bees rise with a jerk (9)
- 2 Smell dead old city (5)
- 3 Mistakes fuel to contain energy (6)
- 4 Jackets – the top sections of very expensive smart suits (5)
- 5 Aromatic plant – send up second in bouquet (6)
- 6 I use lucky items – sh! horrors dispersed without right (10)
- 8 Avoids old-fashioned group that is turning up (6)
- 10§ Speak of almost empty church (5)
- 13 Beer spilled round top of natty dress (6)
- 16 Noticed SDP wrangling about *end* of alliance (5)
- 17 Name one in student festivities? (5)
- 20 A Balt, perhaps, left the races (4)